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PICTURE *of the* NATIVE NEGROES *of* AFRICA.

[From Golberry's Travels in Africa.]

THE climate and character of the African blacks aſſimilate in ſuch a manner, as to render them ſingularly happy.

Gifted with a careleſſneſs, which is totally unique, with an extreme agility, indolence, ſloth, and great ſobriety, the negro exiſts on his native ſoil in the ſweeteſt apathy, unconſcious of want, or the pain of privation; tormented neither with the cares of ambition, nor with the devouring ardour of deſire.

To him the neceſſary and indiſpenſable articles of life are reduced to a very ſmall number; and thoſe endleſs wants which torment Europeans are not known amongſt the negroes of Africa; they exiſt only in thoſe things which are abſolutely ſuperfluous.

There, phyſical neceſſities are few, and artificial ones none. The heat of the climate in which the negro exiſts renders cloathing a burthen to him, and makes him careleſs about the reſidence which he inhabits. Half an ell of linen ſuffices for his habiliments; and a few branches of trees, not worked into elegance, but covered with ſtraw or leaves, conſtitute his houſe. If fire or a ſtorm deſtroy it, he cares not, for in eight days it is again rebuilt; nor need the labour of its owner be great, for the hands of his neighbours are offered to aſſiſt him.

The uſual food of the negroes conſiſts of millet, rice, maize, potatoes, &c. they likewiſe uſe yucca root. They dreſs their aliments by ſteam, and they ſeaſon them with gravy, ſome leaves or herbs, or elſe with butter, or the oil of the palm and cocoa tree.

On the coaſts, and the banks of rivers, ſtreams, and lakes, their food conſiſts of greater variety, becauſe they mingle with it fiſh, and even cayman. Near the foreſts, they regale themſelves with game: pigeons, Guinea fowl, and poultry, abound in almoſt every part of Africa. The negro eats with great zeſt the fleſh of the elephant and hippotamus, and even the lizard: in ſhort, nothing diſguſts him; not even corrupted fleſh or ſtinking fiſh.

In very healthy and fertile countries, covered with woods and paſture, theſe people rear cattle, goats, kids, and ſheep; they have alſo buffaloes. But in general the hunger of the negro is without energy; his food is ſimple and mild, and his regimen temperate.

Twenty days labour in the year will ſuffice for the cultivation of the fields, which produce all eſſential articles for the inhabitants.

In this country, where territorial poſſeſſions are known, where individuals own lands, the negroes are rich, and the free men have almoſt always ſlaves, on whom devolve the ſcanty labour of a very ſimple and limited ſyſtem of agriculture; but in the greater part of Africa, a ſpot of ground is choſen by a whole village, who clear and cultivate it: the harveſt is made *in communibus*, and divided according to the number of miles; the old people make the diſtributions, without occaſioning the leaſt altercation; or elſe they depoſit it in public magazines, ſecured and watched, and portion it out according as it is wanted.

Water is the ordinary drink of the negroes, but when they regale themſelves, their beverage is either palm or cocoa wine, or that procured from the banana tree; they alſo uſe a kind of beer, which they make in ſeveral parts, either of the juice of ſlightly acidulated fruits, or elſe with water, in which they have fermented rice, millet, or maize.

Indigo and cotton grow at their feet without culture. The women collect a quantity of cotton ſufficient for each family; they bleach, purify, card, and ſpin it; and weavers, with an aſtoniſhingly ſimple apparatus, make it into linen, which is about ſix inches wide, and by joining theſe fillets they make their pieces. The indigenous indigo ſerves to colour theſe linens, one ell of which is ſufficient to form a complete dreſs for the lower claſs of negroes.

In more wealthy countries they manufacture ſtuffs of a remarkable fineneſs and beauty; and the elegant pieces of cloth, the fine matts, baſkets, hats, ornaments, quivers, and other things which are brought by the chains of ſlaves from the interior, prove that the negroes poſſeſs a taſte and ſkilfulneſs, and that they delight in works which require delicacy and patience.

The young negro is not attacked by love until his fourteenth year; then alone he begins to feel the longing of deſire, but without violence. At eighteen his heart makes a choice, and he adheres

adheres to it faithfully; he loves paſſionately, ſeeks the object of his affection, demands, and obtains her. This firſt wife always preſerves his friendſhip and entire confidence, as well as the firſt place and rank in his houſe. But if the negro be rich, after a ſhort period has elapſed, he aſſociates with this firſt wife ſome concubines: ſuch is the cuſtom in Africa, and it never interrupts domeſtic harmony.

Thus all the wants and pleaſures of a negro are gratified without occaſioning to him the leaſt trouble either of mind or body: his ſoul hardly ever rouſes itſelf from its quiet and peaceful indolence; all violent paſſions, inquietudes, and fears, are almoſt unknown to him; his fataliſm makes him neither hope nor dread any event; he never murmurs, but ſubmits to all; and his life paſſes in unruffled calmneſs, in voluptuous indolence, which conſtitute his ſupreme pleaſure: hence we may reckon the negro among the moſt favoured and happy productions of nature.

Such is, in fact, the picture of the bliſsful ſituation in which the negro lives on his natal ſoil. His ſoul is always tranquil and ſatisfied, and invulnerable to ennui, that fatal poiſon which afflicts only civilized, rich, ambitious, and proſperous ſocieties. Thoſe men who have remained neareſt to ſimple nature are exempted from the fatal effects of this venom, which produces more diſorders and crimes than is generally imagined.

MEMOIR *of the late* SIR WILLIAM HAMILTON, K. B.

(Continued from Page 250.)

IN the method we have adopted of detailing Mr. Hamilton's labours according to the different branches of his purſuits, we are relieved from the neceſſity of following in a chronological ſeries the whole of his exertions. We ſhall therefore here take a retrograde ſtep to give an account of what he had done, in the ſame interval, towards the ſcience of antiquities.

So early as 1765, he had promoted the publication of the magnificent and elegant work—Antiquities Etruſques, Grecques et Romaines, tirees du Cabinet de Mr. Hamilton; a fine collection of deſigns from Etruſcan, Greek, and Roman vaſes, which was received with the greateſt ſatisfaction by the lovers of antiquity and the arts.

The deſign of this work was profeſſedly the advancement of the arts. It was intended to ſhew on what ſyſtem the ancients gave their vaſes that elegance ſo generally acknowledged and admired, and how they were able to aſſign the exact meaſures of their proportion; and to eſtabliſh certain principles for the artiſt who would perform ſomething in the ſame line. It was,

in ſhort, a moſt valuable preſent to the learned and to artiſts, and above all to manufacturers of earthen ware and china, and of vaſes in ſilver, glaſs, &c. who found here an infinite variety of beautiful models, moſt of which had been until then unknown; and indeed it may be obſerved, that ſince that period our articles of the above deſcription are univerſally formed with more beauty, taſte, and elegance; qualities in which we as yet remain unequalled by any other country.

We are informed in the Abbe Winkelman's Letters, that the above-mentioned work was intended to be compriſed in four large folio volumes. Of theſe, the two former only appeared at the ſtated time, and are known, we preſume, to many of our readers. The two latter volumes (we are informed by a note in the laſt edition of the Letters of Winkelman) were publiſhed in Naples in 1775; but the writer of this article has never been able to procure a ſight of them, or even to gain the leaſt information on the ſubject. The two former volumes were reduced to a ſmaller ſize, and re-publiſhed in Paris, by M. David, in 1787, in five 8vo. volumes.

The adventurer D'Hancarville, editor of the work, as we are told by Winkelman, expected, by that publication, to acquire a fortune of 20,000l. It is not probable that he ever realized this expectation; but we know from D'Hancarville himſelf, that Mr. Hamilton allowed him to reap the emolument which might ariſe from the work. Of the particulars of which, he himſelf ſays, that "long ſince Mr. Hamilton had taken pleaſure in collecting thoſe precious monuments, and had afterwards truſted them to him for publication, requiring only ſome elegance in the execution; and the condition, that the work ſhould appear under the auſpices of his Britannic majeſty,"—"It anſwers no purpoſe to have of the ancient vaſes that general and vague idea which is given of them by the books of Caylus, or Montfaucon. There are few antiquaries and ſcholars who have not entertained a wiſh to ſee ſuch a collection executed with care and preciſion. They can now compare the preſent with that of Cardinal Gualtieri, reported by Montfaucon, and with all the others which have hitherto appeared. Mr. Hamilton, juſtly apprehenſive that the vaſes, already deſtined for England, might be damaged in their way, has reſolved to have them engraved at Naples."

Part of the vaſes which gave riſe to D'Hancarville's work, is that precious collection which is now ſeen in one of the rooms of the Britiſh Muſeum, and which formerly belonged to the ſenatorial houſe of Porcinari, in Naples. Mr. Hamilton purchaſed it from the proprietors in 1765, and it is ſtill a matter of ſurpriſe with the greateſt of our artiſts that it was never ſuffered to go out of its native land. In Naples, however, it never occaſioned any ſurpriſe; as it is there known, that full five years

before

before the purchaſe, the ſame valuable property, through the means of the famous Theatin Father Paciaudi, had been offered to the count of Caylus; and, in fact, the beſt informed Neapolitans were fully convinced that it was much better that ſuch precious monuments ſhould be in the power of ſome active nation, in which they might be put to the beſt uſe, than to remain in their own country, where they would have been uſeleſs to all eternity.

About the ſame time (in 1767) the Britiſh Muſeum received from Mr. Hamilton two other valuable preſents:—1ſt, A complete collection of every ſort of matter produced by Mount Veſuvius, by which he thought it might be proved that "many variegated marbles and many precious ſtones are the produce of volcanoes, and that there have been volcanoes in many parts of the world where at preſent there are no traces of them viſible." 2d. Two very ſcarce and intereſting books, reſpecting the formation of the celebrated new mountain at Pozzuoli, publiſhed at Naples, a few months after the event, in 1538, the one written by Marc Anthony delli Falconi; and the other by Peter James di Toledo.

Among the ſeveral perſons whom Mr. Hamilton honoured with his patronage at Naples, we ſhall only mention the celebrated engraver, Morghen; as it was owing to his encouragement that this eminent artiſt, in 1769, publiſhed that elegant collection of views at Pozzuoli and other ſpots in the neighbourhood of Naples. It is pleaſing to ſay, that Mr. Morghen ſoon evinced his gratitude towards his patron, and the nation to which the latter belonged: the collection was dedicated to the Society of Arts in London; and the greateſt part of the views were inſcribed to ſome individuals of our nobility who then happened to be in Naples.

As our limits will not allow us to enter upon many details, we ſhall only ſubjoin, that ever ſince the year 1770, Mr. Hamilton had eſtabliſhed a regular correſpondence with various intelligent perſons in the ſeveral provinces of the kingdom, concerning ſuch monuments of arts or antiquities as might happen to be found near their reſpective reſidences, and which might anſwer his further purpoſes. This correſpondence was carried on with a peculiar activity in the province of Campania, that province being indeed the ſpot in which the greateſt number of ancient vaſes has been found, and which for this reaſon is thought to have poſſeſſed the chief manufactures of that article.

Whilſt at this period Mr. Hamilton ſo ſucceſsfully indulged in ſcientific and literary purſuits, he had no opportunity of exerting himſelf to any advantage in his public and diplomatic capacity. Beſides the inſignificance of the crown of the Two Sicilies in the concerns of Europe, nothing of importance was then in agitation in the political world; it was the happy pe-

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riod which preceded the American war; and with regard to private connections it is ſtill in the remembrance of his old friends, that till he became acquainted with ſome congenial characters, he found himſelf, in the midſt of an immenſe metropolis, as inſulated as if he had been in a village. The diplomatic body, formerly honoured by the illuſtrious Count of Firmian, was then deſtitute of reſpectable members; and the chief individuals of it, the Count of Stainville and the Count of Kaunitz, both proud of the protection of their reſpective fathers, firſt miniſters in Paris and in Vienna, and both giddy and libertine young men, were rather dangerous aſſociates for a man of ſober character. His majeſty being in his minority, and not having as yet diſcovered that reſpect for learned men, which he has certainly diſplayed in his riper years, could not, by his example, influence the minds of the generality of perſons in power. And the conſequence of this was, that among a nobility generally uninformed and vicious, and among a magiſtracy and miniſtry who had no views beyond their reſpective profeſſions and employments, the ſtudious life, the philoſophical excurſions, and the reſerved manners of Mr. Hamilton, were rather conſidered as peculiarities and eccentricities.

(To be continued.)

Deſcription of the Blood-Hounds uſed in the Weſt-Indies.

THE alcade-provincial of St. Domingo, Don Manuel de Sejas, commanded about ſix and thirty chaſſeurs, who were in the king's pay. The dogs carried out by theſe chaſſeurs were perfectly broken in; that is to ſay, they will not kill the object they purſue, unleſs reſiſted. On coming up with a fugitive, they bark at him till he ſtops; they then couch near him, terrifying him with a ferocious growling, if he ſtirs. In this poſition they continue barking, to give notice to the chaſſeurs, who come up and ſecure their priſoner. Each chaſſeur, though he can hunt only with two dogs properly, is obliged to have three, which he maintains at his own expence, and that by no means inconſiderable. Theſe people live with their dogs, from which they are inſeparable. At home, the dogs are kept chained; and, when walking with their maſters, are never unmuzzled, or let out of ropes, but for attack. They are conſtantly accompanied with one or two ſmall dogs, called finders, whoſe ſcent is very keen, and always ſure of hitting off a track. Dogs and bitches hunt equally well, and the chaſſeurs rear no more than will ſupply the number required. This breed of dogs, indeed, is not ſo prolific as the common kinds, though infinitely ſtronger and hardier. The animal is about the ſize of a very large hound, with ears erect, which are uſually cropped at the points; the

noſe more pointed, but widening very much towards the after-part of the jaw. His coat, or ſkin, is much harder than that of moſt dogs, and ſo muſt be the ſtructure of the body, as the ſevere beatings he undergoes in training, would kill any other ſpecies of dogs. There are ſome, but not many, of a more obtuſe noſe, and which are rather ſquarer ſet. Theſe, it may be preſumed, have been croſſed by the maſtiff; but if by this the bulk has been a little increaſed, it has added nothing to the ſtrength, height, beauty, or agility, of the native breed.

The common employment of theſe dogs is to traverſe the country for the purpoſe of purſuing and taking up all perſons guilty of murder and other offences, in which they ſeldom fail of ſucceſs, no activity on the part of the offenders being able to elude their purſuit. An extraordinary occurrence happened during the laſt war at Havannah. A fleet from Jamaica, under convoy to Great Britain, paſſing through the Gulf of Mexico, beat up on the north ſide of Cuba. One of the ſhips, manned with foreigners, chiefly renegado Spaniards, being a dull ſailor, and conſequently lagging aſtern, ſtanding in with the land at night, was run on ſhore, the captain, officers, and the few Britiſh hands on board murdered, and the veſſel plundered by the Spaniſh renegadoes. The part of the coaſt on which the veſſel was ſtranded being wild and unfrequented, the aſſaſſins retired with their booty to the mountains, intending to penetrate through the woods to ſome remote ſettlements on the ſouth ſide, where they hoped to ſecure themſelves, and elude all purſuit. Early intelligence of the crime, however, had been conveyed to the Havannah, and the aſſaſſins were purſued by a detachment of twelve of the chaſſeurs del Rey, with their dogs. In a few days they were all brought in and executed, not one of them being the leaſt hurt by the dogs when captured. The head and right arm of each of theſe criminals were laſt year yet ſuſpended in frames, not unlike parrot cages, which were hung on various gibbets, at the port, and other conſpicuous places on the coaſt, near the entrance of the harbour.

The animal ſeldom lives longer than ſix years; but the greater their activity the longer their lives.

An Account of the Pearl Fiſhery in Ceylon, and of the Cuſtoms of the various Indian Nations who frequent the Fiſhery.

[From Mr. Percival's "Account of the Iſland of Ceylon."]

DURING the ſeaſon of the pearl fiſhery, which begins in February, and ends about the beginning of April, the iſland of Ceylon affords no ſpectacle more ſtriking to an European than

than the bay and beach of Condatchy. This defert and barren fpot is at that time converted into a fcene, which exceeds, in novelty and variety, almoft any thing ever witneffed. Several thoufands of people of different colours, countries, caſts, and occupations, continually paffing and repaffing in a buſy crowd: the vaſt numbers of ſmall tents and huts erected on the ſhore; with the bazar or market place before each; the multitude of boats returning in the afternoon from the pearl banks, ſome of them laden with riches; the anxious expecting countenances of the boat-owners, while the boats are approaching the ſhore, and the eagerneſs and avidity with which they run to them when arrived, in hopes of a rich cargo; the vaſt numbers of jewellers, brokers, merchants, of all colours and all deſcriptions, both natives and foreigners, who are occupied in ſome way or other with the pearls, ſome ſeparating and aſſorting them, others weighing and aſcertaining their number and value, while others are hawking them about, or drilling and boring them for future uſe: all theſe circumſtances tend to impreſs the mind with the value and importance of that object which can of itſelf create this ſcene.

The bay of Condatchy is the moſt central rendezvous for the boats employed in the fiſhery. The banks, where it is carried on, extend ſeveral miles along the coaſt from Manaar ſouthward, off Arippo, Condatchy, and Pomparipo. The principal bank is oppoſite to Condatchy, and lies out at ſea about twenty miles. The firſt ſtep, previous to the commencement of the fiſhery, is to have the different oyſter banks ſurveyed, the ſtate of the oyſters aſcertained, and a report made on the ſubject to government. If it has been found that the quantity is ſufficient, and that they are arrived at a proper degree of maturity, the particular banks to be fiſhed that year are put up for ſale to the higheſt bidder, and are uſually purchaſed by a black merchant. This, however, is not always the courſe purſued: government ſometimes judges it more advantageous to fiſh the banks on its own account, and to diſpoſe of the pearls afterward to the merchants. When this plan is adopted, boats are hired for the ſeaſon on account of government, from different quarters; the price varies conſiderably, according to circumſtances; but is uſually from five to eight hundred pagodas for each boat. There are however no ſtated prices, and the beſt bargain poſſible is made for each boat ſeparately.

As neither the ſeaſon, nor the convenience of the perſons attending, would permit the whole of the banks to be fiſhed in one year, they are divided into three or four different portions, which are fiſhed one portion annually in ſucceſſion. The different portions are completely diſtinct, and ſet up ſeparately to ſale, each in the year in which it is to be fiſhed. By this means a ſufficient interval is given to the oyſters, to attain their

proper growth; and as the portion firſt uſed has generally recovered its maturity by the time the laſt portion has been fiſhed, the fiſhery becomes almoſt regularly annual, and may thus be conſidered as yielding a yearly revenue. The oyſters are ſuppoſed to attain their completeſt ſtate of maturity in ſeven years.

The period allowed to the merchant to fiſh the banks is ſix weeks, or two months at the utmoſt; but there are ſeveral interruptions, which prevent the fiſhing days from exceeding more than about thirty. If it happens to be a very bad ſeaſon, and many ſtormy days intervene during the period allotted, the purchaſer of the fiſhery is often allowed a few days more as a favour. One conſiderable interruption proceeds from the number and diverſity of holidays obſerved by the divers of different ſects and nations who are employed. Many of the divers are of a black race, known by the name of Marawas, and inhabiting the oppoſite coaſt of Tutucoreen: theſe people, although of the Malabar caſt, are Roman catholics, and leave off work on Sundays to attend prayers at the chapel of Arippo. But if many ſtormy days, or Hindoo and Mahomedan feſtivals (which are never neglected on any account by the natives) occur to interrupt the regular courſe of fiſhing, the farmer is ſometimes deſirous that the catholic Marawas ſhould make up the loſt time by working on Sundays: but this he cannot compel them to do, without an order from the chief civil officer of government, who is appointed to ſuperintend the fiſhery.

The boats and donies employed in the fiſhery do not belong to Ceylon, but are brought from different ports of the continent; particularly Tutucoreen, Caracal, and Negapatam, on the Coromandel coaſt; and Colang, a ſmall place on the Malabar coaſt, between Cape Comorin and Anjanga. The divers from Colang are accounted the beſt, and are only rivalled by the Lubbahs, who remain on the iſland of Manaar, for the purpoſe of being trained in this art. Previous to the commencement of the fiſhery, all the boats rendezvous at Condatchy; and it is here they are numbered and contracted for.

During the ſeaſon, all the boats regularly ſail and return together. A ſignal gun is fired at Arippo, about ten at night, when the whole fleet ſets ſail with the land-breeze. They reach the banks before day-break, and at ſun-riſe commence fiſhing. In this they continue buſily occupied till the ſea-breeze, which ariſes about noon, warns them to return to the bay. As ſoon as they appear within ſight, another gun is fired, and the colours hoiſted, to inform the anxious owners of their return. When the boats come to land, their cargoes are immediately taken out, as it is neceſſary to have them completely unloaded before night. Whatever may have been the ſucceſs of their boats, the owners ſeldom wear the looks of diſappointment; for, although they may have been unſucceſsful one day, they look with the moſt

complete aſſurance of better fortune to the next; as the Brahmins and conjurers, whom they implicitly truſt in defiance of all experience, underſtand too well the liberality of a man in hopes of good fortune, not to promiſe them all they can deſire.

Each of the boats carries twenty men, with a tindal or chief boatman, who acts as pilot. Ten of the men row and aſſiſt the divers in aſcending. The other ten are divers; they go down into the ſea by five at a time; when the firſt five come up the other five go down, and by this method of alternately diving, they give each other time to recruit themſelves for a freſh plunge.

In order to accelerate the deſcent of the divers, large ſtones are employed; five of theſe are brought in each boat for the purpoſe; they are of a reddiſh granite, common in this country, and of a pyramidal ſhape, round at top and bottom, with a hole perforated through the ſmaller end ſufficient to admit a rope. Some of the divers uſe a ſtone ſhaped like a half moon, which they faſten round the belly when they mean to deſcend, and thus keep their feet free.

Theſe people are accuſtomed to dive from their very infancy, and fearleſsly deſcend to the bottom in from four to ten fathom water, in ſearch of the oyſters. The diver, when he is about to plunge, ſeizes the rope, to which one of the ſtones we have deſcribed is attached, with the toes of his right foot, while he takes hold of a bag of network with thoſe of his left; it being cuſtomary among all the Indians to uſe their toes in working or holding as well as their fingers, and ſuch is the power of habit that they can pick up even the ſmalleſt thing from the ground with their toes as nimbly as an European could with his fingers. The diver thus prepared, ſeizes another rope with his right hand, and holding his noſtrils ſhut with the left, plunges into the water, and by the aſſiſtance of the ſtone ſpeedily reaches the bottom. He then hangs the net round his neck, and with much dexterity, and all poſſible diſpatch, collects as many oyſters as he can while he is able to remain under water, which is uſually about two minutes. He then reſumes his former poſition, makes a ſignal to thoſe above by pulling the rope in his right hand, and is immediately by this means drawn up and brought into the boat, leaving the ſtone to be pulled up afterward by the rope attached to it.

The exertion undergone during this proceſs is ſo violent, that upon being brought into the boat, the divers diſcharge water from their mouth, ears, and noſtrils, and frequently even blood. But this does not hinder them from going down again in their turn. They will often make from forty to fifty plunges in one day; and at each plunge bring up about one hundred oyſters. Some rub their bodies over with oil, and ſtuff their ears and noſes to prevent the water from entering; while others uſe no precautions

tions whatever. Although the uſual time of remaining under water does not much exceed two minutes, yet there are inſtances known of divers who could remain four and even five minutes. The longeſt inſtance ever known was that of a diver who came from Anjango, in 1797, and who abſolutely remained under water full ſix minutes.

This buſineſs of a diver, which appears ſo extraordinary and full of danger to an European, becomes quite familiar to an Indian, owing to the natural ſuppleneſs of his limbs, and his habits from his infancy. His chief terror and riſque ariſe from falling in with the ground-ſhark while at the bottom. This animal is a common and terrible inhabitant of all the ſeas in theſe latitudes, and is a ſource of perpetual uneaſineſs to the adventurous Indian. Some of the divers, however, are ſo ſkilful as to avoid the ſhark even when they remain under water for a conſiderable time. But the terrors of this foe are ſo continually before their eyes, and the uncertainty of eſcaping him ſo great, that theſe ſuperſtitious people ſeek for ſafety in ſupernatural means.

Before they begin diving, the prieſt, or conjurer, is always conſulted, and whatever he ſays to them is received with the moſt implicit confidence. The preparation which he enjoins them conſiſts of certain ceremonies according to the caſt and ſect to which they belong, and on the exact performance of theſe they lay the greateſt ſtreſs. Their belief in the efficacy of theſe ſuperſtitious rites can never be removed, however different the event may be from the predictions of their deluders: government therefore wiſely gives way to their prejudices, and always keep in pay ſome conjurers, to attend the divers, and remove their fears. For though theſe people are ſo ſkilful and ſo much maſters of their art, yet they will not on any account deſcend till the conjurer has performed his ceremonies. His advices are religiouſly obſerved, and generally have a tendency to preſerve the health of the devotee. The diver is uſually enjoined to abſtain from eating before he goes to plunge, and to bathe himſelf in freſh water immediately after his return from the labours of the day.

(To be continued.)

ANECDOTES *of* JOHN TAYLOR.

[From his Works, 1630.]

THIS author had the merit of interrupting the ſervile etiquette of kneeling to the king. I myſelf, (ſays the water-poet), gave a book to King James once, in the great chamber, at Whitehall, as his majeſty came from the chapel.

The duke of Richmond ſaid merrily to me, " Taylor, where did you learn the manners to give the king a book and not kneel?"—" My lord, (ſaid I,) if it pleaſe your grace, I doe give now; but when I beg any thing, then I will kneele."

Myſelf, (ſays the ſame writer), carried an old fellow by water, that had wealth enough to be deputy of the ward, and wit enough for a ſcavenger. The water being ſomewhat rough, he was much afraid, and threatened me that if I did drown him, he would ſpend a hundred pound but he would *ſee* me hanged for it. In little ſpace I landed him on the bank ſide. Well, ſaid he, I am glad I am off the water, for if the boat had overſet, I could have ſwam no more than a gooſe.

Soon after twelve at noon, one aſked me what it was o'clock: I anſwered him, it was little or nothing. On his wondering at my reply, I ſaid, " that which is leſs than one, is little or nothing."

An hoſteſs of mine at Oxford roaſted a ſhoulder of a ram, which in the eating was as tough as a buff jerkin. I aſked her, why the mutton was ſo tough: ſhe ſaid, ſhe knew not, unleſs the butcher deceived her in the age of it. Nay, quoth I, there is, I think, another fault in it, which will excuſe the butcher; for, perhaps, you roaſted it with old wood. In troth, replied ſhe, that is likely enough, for my huſband buys nothing but old ſtumps and knots, which make all the meat we roaſt or boil ſo exceeding tough that nobody can eat it.

Being aſked who invented the game of bowls, he replied, " No doubt, the philoſopher Bias."

As a ſpecimen of this writer's poetry, take two anagrams, written during confinement:

I.

Arreſting very well with this agrees,
It is *a ſtinger* worſe than waſps or bees;
The very word includes the priſoner's fates,
Arreſting briefly claps them up *in grates*.

II.

To all good verſes *priſons* are great foes,
And many poets they keep faſt *in proſe*:
Again, the very word portends ſmall hopes,
For he that's in a priſon is *in ropes*;
Makes woeful purchaſe of calamities,
And finds in it no profit, or *no prize*:
Filth, cold, and hunger, dwell within the door,
And thus a priſon truly doth *nip ſore*.

The

The wonderful Effects of the Bath Waters, exemplified in the Caſe of Mary, Wife of Iſaac Smith, Stocking-maker, from Nottingham; who kept her Bed nine Years of a Paralytic and univerſal Weakneſs.

Written by Herſelf, on receiving a Cure in the Bath General Hoſpital, March 14, 1804.

THE following narrative is intended as a tribute of gratitude to HIM in whom we live and have our being; alſo to thoſe benevolent perſons, agents of divine goodneſs, whoſe delight is the happineſs of all mankind; and for the encouragement and information of the afflicted.

"Being a ſtranger peculiarly circumſtanced, every one naturally enquires—Who are you? What has been the cauſe of your long and heavy affliction? What means have you tried? What age are you? &c.

"I anſwer, I was born in London, in the year 1759; my father was a cabinet-maker and upholſterer, in Whitechapel-road. He is now reduced, through misfortune. My mother died when I was ſix years old; and my father married a ſecond wife in about three years after, when I was ſent to a boarding-ſchool. Having finiſhed my education, I aſſiſted my father in his buſineſs till the year 1780, when I became governeſs of a ſchool, which I opened with very good ſucceſs, near the City-road; and afterwards in Windmill-ſtreet, Finſbury-ſquare, where I reſided when I married in 1792. My huſband having been brought up a cathedral ſinger, was employed by the late Dr. Dupees to conduct the choir at the Quebec chapel, Oxford-road. I had accompanied him to that place of worſhip in Auguſt, 1794, and returning together through Groſvenor-ſquare, I was attacked by a mad bullock, which as I have ſince learned, had been hunted all day; my huſband reſcued me; but the ſuden fright had ſuch an effect upon me, that being in a family way, it cauſed what might have been expected. From this time I became paralytic; and as I have been informed by the faculty, the whole nervous ſyſtem became deranged, and an univerſal weakneſs pervaded my whole frame, and rendered the lower limbs uſeleſs: ſo that I was unable to ſit up in bed for the ſpace of three years, nor could I bear to lie horizontal, but had my feet conſtantly raiſed in bed, and could not be moved without the moſt acute pain.

"After three years had elapſed ſome favourable ſymptoms appeared. I began to ſit up in bed, and in about a year after to venture my feet on the ground; but could not ſtand for the ſpace of ſix years from the beginning of my afflictions. In the year 1799, I was adviſed by Dr. Meerſbank, to try ſea-bathing; which

which I did, having firſt conſulted Dr. Lettſom, a gentleman I always think of with the moſt profound reſpect and eſteem; by his advice my huſband took me to Margate, where I was attended by Drs. Anderſon and Slater, for whoſe ſkill and attention I deſire to be particularly grateful. I got much better at Margate; but relapſed in London. I was now adviſed to remove into the country, and Nottingham was the place fixed on for our reſidence, that being the beſt place for my huſband's buſineſs, he being a burgeſs of that town, having ſerved his apprenticeſhip there. Our proſpect was now very gloomy; for although I was much better than I had been for many years, I was ſtill unable to ſtand. Our money was all gone, and my huſband had given up all expectations of emolument from his employments in London, which ſacrifices he chearfully made in hopes of my recovery, and worked at Nottingham as a journeyman; but having been ſo many years out of the manufactory, he was ſcarcely able to get a livelihood at a ſtocking-frame. By cloſe application to buſineſs, and ſtrict unremitting attention to me for more than ſeven years, the poor man at length became emaciated, and caught a malignant fever, which was very prevalent when we had been in the town about one year. I had then began to walk about my room a little; but taking the putrid ſpotted fever, I lay entirely inſenſible twenty-one days, as I was told; it was with the greateſt difficulty a doctor or nurſe could be procured; my nurſe took the fever, but recovered. But my doctor, good Dr. Kirkland, died, much lamented, eſpecially by the ſick poor. My huſband recovering, he procured me the advice of a very eminent phyſician, the juſtly celebrated Dr. Storer. Thanks be to God, my fever now abated, my reaſon returned, and I gradually recovered; and my good phyſician gave me hopes that the removal of the fever, and a change of air, might be the means of removing my former complaints. In a few months I was ordered to be taken to Buxton waters, where I ſtaid ſeveral weeks, and got ſo well as to be able to ſtand upright, but it was in the autumn; and I ſuffered a relapſe at Nottingham in the winter.

" Dr. Storer recommended me the Bath waters; I found great difficulty in coming ſo far, although my huſband attended me. We arrived in Bath, January, 1803; I could not ſtand, nor ſcarcely ſit up, even in bed. Our friends at Nottingham being quite unacquainted with the neceſſary forms of admitting patients into the Bath Hoſpital, ſent us with only the doctor's recommendation; whereas the caſe ſhould have been certified by proper officers, and tranſmitted to the Governors, and we ſhould have continued at Nottingham till we were ſent for, agreeably to the directions for admitting patients into the General Hoſpital, which are publiſhed in the Bath Guide.

" To the kindneſs of a ſubſcriber, and the humanity of Dr. Moodie, I was admitted an out-patient to the City Diſpenſary; the houſe apothecary kindly viſited me at my lodgings. He gave me medicine, and ordered me into the bath, by which I found ſome immediate benefit. My caſe having excited compaſſion in the minds of ſome kind and humane ladies and gentleman, it was properly ſtated, and ſent to Nottingham; and being duly returned, I was admitted into the Bath General Hoſpital, June 28, 1803. Before I had been under that benevolent roof two months, I could ſtand on my feet once more; and in four, I could walk with the aſſiſtance of crutches; and now, thank God! I can walk five hundred yards alone, without ſtick or crutch, and have every reaſon to hope that my cure will be confirmed, after more than nine years ſuffering. I was diſcharged the 14th inſtant from that bleſſed aſylum, after receiving moſt miraculous relief, and experiencing every attention for upwards of ſix months.

" May the Almighty be pleaſed to accept the tribute of a grateful heart, ſo juſtly due to Him, and to my kind benefactors; and may my afflicted fellow-creatures learn to put their truſt in God! Though I have ſuffered ſome hardſhips, I owe it to divine providence, and good old Engliſh hoſpitality, to acknowledge that I have never experienced abſolute want, nor dejection of mind. My Bible, my Common-prayer, and a few other good books, have been my conſtant companions, and means of ſupport under my affliction. I eſteem that affliction as a merciful diſpenſation; my Heavenly Father has kindly taken me into wiſdom's beſt ſchool, the ſchool of adverſity; where I hope I have learned that contentment, calmneſs, and ſerenity of mind, which alone can make us comparatively happy here, and eternally happy hereafter.

" May the ſtrength thus acquired, be ſpent in continual praiſe to Him, through whoſe mercy it has been reſtored!

" MARY SMITH.

" *No.* 41, *Kingſmead-ſtreet, March* 20, 1804."

On RETIREMENT.

IT appears evident, from every conſideration, that mankind were formed for ſociety, and that God never intended that thry ſhould ſequeſter themſelves from each other in deſerts and hermitages. Society, therefore, has been formed for mutual good. Even Adam himſelf, in paradiſe, was uncomfortable without an help-mate, and God declared that it was not good for him to be alone.

There are ſo many reciprocal cares and pleaſures that cannot be ſhared without friendſhip, that it appears ſavage in the extreme

treme to debar man of this ſalutary ingredient for the enjoyment of life. When Incle was caſt upon a deſert iſland, his time was beguiled by the endearments of Yarico. How miſerable muſt his life have been without that lovely ſtranger! Marriage, therefore, appears to have been inſtituted for the comfort as well as the conveniency of life: that kindred minds might be happy in the enjoyment of each other, and that children, the fruit of their love, might be the means of putting them in remembrance of their mutual attachment.

Some, no doubt, diſguſted with human life, have retired from the world, and ſought for that happineſs in ſolitude which they did not find in ſociety. Their motive for retirement has not been juſt; for a few diſappointments ſhould not have ſo far ſoured their tempers, as to find fault with all around them. If true philoſophy had poſſeſſed their minds, they would have conſidered human life as checquered; that there is no ſituation free from trouble, and that, therefore, to bear "the thouſand natural ſhocks that fleſh is heir to," would have been a certain proof of magnanimity, and that their pretenſions to religion were not ill-founded; whereas their conduct has betrayed great weakneſs, and expoſed them to the painful reflection of their own minds.

Others, no doubt, have retired from the nobleſt motives: they have ſeen the deception of mankind, and ſought thoſe pleaſures, in the charms of ſolitude, which the world, with all its faſcinations, could not afford them. With Solomon they have ſeen, that "all is vanity and vexation of ſpirit." Having ſpent a great part of their lives in buſy and pleaſurable ſcenes, they have fled to retirement, as an aſylum from the cares of ſtate and the luxury of courts. From the life of Petrarch, it appears, that the court of Rome could not yield that ſatisfaction which he found in his country retreat. His books and domeſtic animals gave him unſpeakable pleaſure; whilſt the fall of water, and the zephyrs of the woods, abſorbed his whole ſoul in ſilence and contemplation. It was in this lovely retreat that he formed the plans for uſefulneſs, and the poems, which will continue his name dear to poſterity.

The ſaints who retired to the deſerts of Egypt, in the fourth century of the church, were actuated by the pureſt motive, as they ſpent their time in faſting, prayer and meditation; yet we muſt acknowledge that they carried their mortification too far, and were tinged, beyond a doubt, with ſuperſtition and enthuſiaſm. They thought their retirement very meritorious, whereas ſome of them might have been of far more ſervice in ſociety.

We, in the preſent day, do run into another extreme: under the idea of having aboliſhed convents, abbeys, and monaſteries, we ſcarcely ſee any occaſion for religious retirement; ſo that we confine our religion too much to places of public worſhip, and little conſider the great importance of perſonal godlineſs.

Retirement appears calculated to anſwer the moſt important purpoſes. Without it we ſhall ſuffer eſſentially in our minds: thoſe good reſolutions we hear recommended ſo frequently in public will ſpeedily be eradicated, if retirement does not mature them. The gaiety of a large town, and the hurry of much buſineſs, will prove highly injurious, if ſome time is not ſpent in ſolitude, and therefore ſome have ſeen the neceſſity of country retirement, and have expreſſed the higheſt ſatisfaction they derive from rural ſcenes. With the celebrated Cowper they can ſay,

" The calm retreat, the ſilent ſhade,
With prayer and praiſe agree,
And ſeem by thy ſweet bounty made
For thoſe who follow thee."

They return to town from their country excurſions pleaſed and edified, eſpecially if they have ſpent a part of their time in the exerciſes of true religion: they ſee more of the vanity of this world, and the neceſſity of a better ſtate, and form the reſolution of being more devoted to the ſervice of their Creator and Redeemer.

Retirement appears needful for the ſtudious part of mankind: without it they could not acquire that extenſive learning which has been of ſo much ſervice to ſociety, nor make thoſe diſcoveries in the arts and ſciences which embelliſh human life. If it had not been for the monks in our own country, a great part of the Engliſh hiſtory would have been loſt, as well as the ſacred ſcriptures. Having nothing to engroſs their time but devotion, they made uſe of every method to improve their minds in uſeful knowledge, and hiſtory preſented itſelf as one of the moſt uſeful and pleaſant ſtudies. It is to be lamented, that a great part of their reſearches is entirely loſt: revolutions and changes in the ſtate have been the melancholy cauſes of it.

The advantages ariſing from ſolitude are moſt beautifully delineated by Zimmerman, in his admirable treatiſe on that ſubject: there is no perſon of learning and ſenſibility but muſt read it with rapturous delight. There are certain requiſites eſſential to the enjoyment of retirement: we muſt deſcend into the valley of humiliation; be ſenſible of our true condition, as the creatures of a wiſe and merciful Being; conſider our deſerts, as having frequently offended him; exerciſe true repentance for the follies of our lives, and implore his gracious favour, as neceſſary for our preſent and future welfare. Content muſt likewiſe pervade our mind, for without it we ſhall be very miſerable in ſolitude, and ſhall not take delight in the ſimplicity of the creatures preſented to our view. But the truly pious mind ſees goodneſs in every plant and flower, till from the contemplation of earth, its thoughts aſcend to Heaven.

Anſwer, by T. Rutger. of Clowance, to J. Paſcal's Enigma, inſerted January 30.

I Think your lines, when expreſs'd true,
A WATCH they will preſent to view.

☞ We have received the like anſwer from J. Squance, of Exeter; E. R. Bickham, of Newton Buſhel; W. Bickham, jun. of Aſhburton; and Thomas Coumbe, of St. German's.

Anſwer, by T. Whicker, of Exeter, to Primroſe's Rebus, inſerted January 30.

THE virtuous author that you mean
Is WATTS, Sir, as is plainly ſeen.

*** We have received the like anſwer from W. Mann, and W. Bickham, jun. of Aſhburton; W. Strong, R. Holwell, and E. Moon, of Exeter; and A. Kyne, jun. of Dartmouth.

Anſwer, by J. Squance, of Exeter, to R. Berry's Charade, inſerted February 6.

THE FEATHER oft adorns the Britiſh fair,
Which plainly, Sir, your lines will make appear.

*** We have received the like anſwer from Thomas Rutger, of Clowance; E. Moon, R. Holwell, and T. Whicker, of Exeter; A. Kyne, jun. of Dartmouth; and J. Lewis, of Poole.

An ANAGRAM, *by T. Rutger, of Clowance.*

AN inſect, Sirs, aright tranſpoſe,
What ſwiftly flies it will diſcloſe.

A CHARADE, *by W. Mann, of Aſhburton.*

SPRING, at length, her charms reſuming,
Decks with ſplendour hill and vale;
See! my firſt, where ſweets are blooming,
Sportive as the wanton gale;
On them view my ſecond growing,
Clean, unſpotted, fair, and white;
From my whole what joys are flowing,
Pleaſure, mirth, and gay delight.

A REBUS, *by E. R. Bickham, of Newton Buſhel.*

WHEN by the ſtorm the bark's toſs'd to and fro,
Then doth my firſt oft fill the tar with fear;
And tho' depreſs'd with deep deſpair and woe,
My pleaſing ſecond oft his courſe doth ſteer.
Oh! pleaſing theme, when war-worn nations reſt
Within the bound'ries of my peaceful next;
Then will my laſt be crown'd with happineſs,
No more hoſtility our ſhore perplex.
But ſhould proud Gallia's dire inſulting hoſt
Land on our ſhore, their haughty ſword to wield,
Then will my whole, throughout Britannia's coaſt,
Soon rouſe her ſons to the enſanguin'd field.

POETRY.

For the WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

On the Death of George, a Waiter at a Tavern.

POOR George! and is thy ſervice paſt?
Art thou too call'd away at laſt,
Like all thy fellow-creatures?
Yes—in the grave thy labours reſt,
Where even landlords are confeſs'd
No better than their waiters.

Vain is the taſk to found thy fame,
Since all that knew thy humble name
Are conſcious of thy merit;
And oft admir'd thy ſtate on earth,
Where all thy toils were crown'd with mirth,
And overcome with *ſpirit*.

When idlers met to ſwill or gorge—
One univerſal cry of "George,"
From room to room reſounded;
"Bring this"—"bring that"—"go here"—"go there"—
And well didſt thou attend thy care,
With cheerfulneſs unbounded.

Whatever ſtranger chanc'd to ring,
(Whether a cobler or a king)
All due regard was paid him;
Even when *death* (that haggard prince)
Call'd gruffly, "George," a few days ſince,
Poor faithful George obey'd him.

A weary traveller haſt thou been
From childhood to the laſt great inn
Of Adam's frail deſcendants;
Hard are its beds, and cold indeed;
Where mortals are not *fed*—but *feed*
A hoſt of vile attendants.

What fellow-ſervant bade farewell,
Untouch'd by ſadneſs, when the bell
Was toll'd at thy interment?
Unleſs perhaps (unfeeling brutes!)
'Twas dirty Scrub, or lazy Boots,
Ambitious of preferment.

Ah! fooliſh Boots! Ah thoughtleſs Scrub!
Go, go your filthy trumpery rub,
Content with your condition;
And wiſely learn from George's fate,
How ſhort on earth is man's eſtate!
How futile is ambition!

Scarce can the muſe her tears conceal;
Tho' what, alas! will e'er avail
Thoſe tender teſts of ſorrow?

George

George would not peep above the ground,
Were all the *tavern-bells* to ſound
From this time 'till to-morrow.

Plymouth-Dock. PALEMON.

VERSES *on being* AWOKE *by a* RED-BREAST.

SWEET bird! whoſe warbling ſtrains extatic ſwell,
And burſt in raptures from thy crimſon'd throat;
What charms exquiſite thro' my boſom thrill
At thy melodious, ſoft, inſpiring note.

How oft, dear bird! at early peep of dawn,
Ere Phœbus riſing darts his golden eye;
Perch'd on ſome tender twig, o'er yonder lawn,
Thou ſweetly tun'ſt thy little ſymphony.

Or 'neath my window, on the friendly thorn
Where now elate thou lift'ſt thy plumy creſt;
With thrilling ardour hail'ſt the roſy morn,
Diffuſing radiance from yon purple eaſt.

O now! as on my pillow ſoft reclin'd,
Thy trembling voice thro' notes harmonious roll;
The charms that 'livening cheers thy little mind,
Oe'rflows the genial current of my ſoul.

Sing on, ſweet bird! and let thy quiv'ring lay,
In vocal ſtrains, ſtill animate my breaſt;
Till thro' the gloom Aurora's bright'ning ray
Tranſpierce her bluſhing charms to yonder weſt.

But ſoft; methinks I ſee yon margent hill,
Ting'd with the golden beam that crowns the morn;
O yes! I too perceive you chequer'd dell,
And glitt'ring pendants on the flow'ring thorn.

Touch'd by the gen'rous ſpark of heav'nly fire,
Whoſe vivid radiance bright illumes the ſky,
I now muſt quit the place where I retire,
And from my preſent ſtation haſte away.

Sweet bird adieu! yet let thy tender ſtrain,
In notes ſymphonious echo thro' the air,
T' invoke ſome friendly pow'r to hail thee mine,
And kindly place o'er thee the hand of care.

Then ſhall thy ſolo's undulating charm,
Each morn revive in ſome new, tender lay;
And ſweetly modulating give th' alarm,
To me the calm approach of opening day.

Clowance. T. RUTGER.

TO MIRA.

SWEET lady! lay aſide that lyre,
Which thrills the ſoul with warm deſire;
And O! that witching ſmile forbear,
Which guiles the cup of dire deſpair.

For ah! too well thy magic art,
Can charm, inflame, enſlave the heart;
And ah! too well thy ſmile portrays,
A ſun-beam on the treacherous ſeas.

EUGENIO.